



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 600

January 2023

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

2023

8 January Epiphany/The Baptism of Christ

5 February Candlemas

22 February Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent)

19 March Mothering Sunday

2 April Palm Sunday

7 April Good Friday

9 April Easter Day /Vicarage Garden Party

20 May Spring Market

28 May Pentecost

4 June Trinity

15 July Ewell Village Fair

11 September Patronal Festival

30 September A Day for All

4 November All Souls Day

5 November All Saints Day

12 November Remembrance Sunday

3 December Advent

25 December Christmas Day

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Fr Mark Stafford writes

I hope that you have all had a joyful Christmas.

Like a lot of us, I have noticed that over the holiday some of my clothes have shrunk and it has become more difficult to fasten the button on my trousers. This poor state of affairs has prompted me to think a little about food and the ways in which we could reduce our expenditure and level of food waste.

Rather than preach at you, I thought I would write a little ditty....

Fish heads, chicken legs, stale bread, and scraps
Caviar and minced beef and lumps of old goose fat
Instead of throwing them in the bin, could you feed them to the cat?

Throwing food away is really rather rash.
It's a massive drain on the planet and a huge waste of cash.

Boil up your chicken bones, bits of ham and pork,
roast beef and cabbage leaves and even cauliflower stalks

Make a lovely soup or something hot and gooey,
and if you have left over veg.....
knock up a ratatouille.

Before you throw food in the bin, take time to contemplate

Should this be destined for the tip or a second time on the plate?

As we exit Christmas, let's re-evaluate the amount of food we buy and the amount that's makes it to the plate!!

New year's motto - Recycle, Reuse and Reduce

CONFIRMATION 2022

Confirmation is one of those great signposting events in the life of an Anglican. It should be the time when we as adults come before God and confirm our profession of faith, when we look back at our lives and track how God has brought us to this point, to confess and take stock and realign yourselves with God. Confirmation is also a time of looking forward, to seek God's Blessing for our futures and to receive the gift of his Holy Spirit.

It is always one of the greatest joys in ministry to be alongside confirmation candidates as they attend classes and then kneel before the bishop as he or she prays for God's Blessing for them, its even more of a joy when this takes place in our home Church.

This year we were fortunate to witness Bishop Andrew confirm four members of our Church. Congratulations to Shaun, Elizabeth, Bertram, and Phoebe. It's great to have you on board and to be able to share with you in your journey of faith.

I am sure that all the brothers and sisters here at St Mary's will be holding you in prayer over the next few

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

Registered Charity Number 1128409

CLERGY

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Day off: Wednesday

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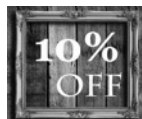
The postal address is: St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

The Parish Office is closed to visitors at present. Please telephone or email instead.

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term time 10-11.30 in
Ewell Hall

For information please
phone 020 8393 4804
or see St Mary's website



months as you settle into your almost new Church Family.

Thank you to all who made that service so special for our candidates and those candidates who joined us from around the deanery.

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

After the Christmas rush, things are a little slower in January as we all catch our breath and plan for the New Year. In house the Church will be working on its new mission action plan, which promises to be an exciting exercise when we look where we have come from, see where we are and decide where to go next!

We continue with our Bach organ recitals at 13:05 on 10 January followed by refreshments in the parish room.

Our next on-line quiz using Zoom is on January 18. If you have not joined one of our on-line quizzes, then do consider it this month. Our quizzes really are great fun. You will need to register using a link that will be given in the Weekly Notes nearer the time, or you can email zoom@stmarysewell.com.

On 21 January we are holding a *Board Games Afternoon* in Ewell Hall from 2-5 pm. Come and join us to play games of luck or skill, some familiar games, some new and some unusual, suitable for young and old. Free tea, coffee and cakes - no need to book - just turn up.

Other than this it's all quiet.... however I may put together a men's curry night late in January, maybe Saturday 28; if you are interested let me know vicar@stmarysewell.com.

Every blessing

Fr Mark

AMAZONSMILE & EASYFUNDRAISING

AmazonSmile: do you make on-line purchases from Amazon and if so do you know about AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice at no cost to you every time you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk. You will find the same prices, product selection and shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your selected charity. If you nominate St Mary's as the charity of your choice we can receive 0.5% of the cost of all eligible purchases (after VAT, return and shipping fees).

Millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for smile.amazon.co.uk donation" on their product detail pages.

To shop, please go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>. Perhaps add a bookmark to make it easier to return and start your shopping.

You use the same account on Amazon and AmazonSmile. **On your first visit to smile.amazon.co.uk please select The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Ewell as the charitable organisation to receive donations from eligible purchases.** Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at AmazonSmile will result in a donation to St Mary's. Thank you!

Easyfundraising: do you make on-line purchases from other on-line retailers and if so do you know about Easyfundraising?

Many hundreds of well-known on-line retailers (including John Lewis, Damart, Argos, Sainsburys and Tesco) offer charitable donations through Easyfundraising, for purchases made via their website. Presently St Mary's has 37 people signed up to Easyfundraising and we have received £1051 in charitable donations from their purchases.

We can raise much more if more people register and shop via www.easyfundraising.org.uk. Please select **St Mary the Virgin Parish Church - Ewell** as your nominated charity and remember to make purchases via the EasyFundraising website. Thank you!



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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

**One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God
and Father of us all (Ephesians 4:5)**

27 November Freya Jean Baron

Louis Norman Baron

4 December Bertram Maximilian Maunder

Phoebe Elizabeth Maunder

CONFIRMATION

**'My God accept my heart this day,
And make it always thine. (AMR 459)**

*At the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, Ewell, on
Sunday 4 December 2022 by the Bishop of Guildford*

Bertram Maximilian Maunder

Elizabeth Jane Maunder

Phoebe Elizabeth Maunder

Shaun Edsel Maunder

FUNERALS

Let light perpetual shine upon them

18 November Richard William Bonner, aged 57

5 December Eleanor Jean Wharton, aged 93

Ashes Interments

23 November Antony Nelson Knights, aged 85

24 November Roy William John Foster, aged 92

JANUARY CONCERT

January 10 at 1.05 pm

Free Tuesday lunchtime Bach organ recital

Jonathan Holmes

Mit Fried'und Freud' ich fahr' dahin BWV 616

Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf BWV 617

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist BWV 1091

Wien ach einer Wasserquelle BWV 1119

Von Gott will ich nicht lassen BWV 658

Prelude and Fugue in B minor BWV 544



ST. MARY'S ON-LINE QUIZZES



We hold monthly on-line quizzes using Zoom

These have proved very popular and are fun for all
the family, so why not join us?

Our next quiz will be on Wednesday January 18

As always, you will need to register beforehand.
You can use links provided in the Weekly Notes or
you can also register by emailing

zoom@stmarysewell.com.



Thank you for all of your donations.

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**We would also appreciate any bags for life/very
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You can donate at Sainsbury's Kiln Lane, Waitrose
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park (please wear a mask): Epsom & Ewell Food-
bank, Good Company Hub, (Behind West Ewell Pri-
mary School), Ruxley Lane, Ewell KT19 0JG.
Donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am -
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You can sign up to the Foodbank newsletter on their
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Prayers for January



O Lord,

Here we are again, at the beginning of another New Year and wondering what it may hold. While for some, it may bring a new beginning, for others, it may bring an ending. Whatever our circumstances, help us to be like those wise men who sought an earthly king but who were instead led to a humble stable and found you, the One born to bring freedom, forgiveness, and a hope of heaven. Like them, during the coming days, may we also be led to that Light, to you who opens eyes to understanding God's Word and Truth.

Thank you, Lord, for this New Year; for all the potential it holds. We know that you are always there beside us, in the good times and in the bad. We pray that whatever befalls us in the coming days, you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. AMEN

FIRESIDE FRIDAYS



We started our Fireside Fridays at the end of November as a response to the recent economic crisis and spiralling energy costs as a means of providing a warm hub for people to come along and either have some company or work from the Hall. We provide a selection of cakes and hot drinks for no charge and the afternoon is manned by volunteers. After a slow start, word appears to be getting around and we have welcomed members of the local community. Even though we don't have an open fire in the Hall, the lovely Ian has provided us with a screen with a moving recording of a fire which strangely appears to emit imaginary warmth!

This resource will continue to run throughout January and into February (weather depending). Do come along for a chat and a cuppa and to enjoy our heating and good cheer!

Lucy Stafford

'COME AND SING' BRAHMS' REQUIEM Saturday 19 November

What a memorable evening this was! St. Mary's Parish Choir and friends led a performance of the Requiem by the German composer Johannes Brahms. Baritone soloist Timothy Tomkins was enthusiastically applauded by his fellows in the Parish Choir. Two pianists, in the arrangement for four hands, were Sarah Holmes and Simon Gregory. The conductor was Jonathan Holmes.

I believe there were two events in Brahms's life that were of paramount importance in the genesis of his Requiem. First and foremost, was the tragic story of the madness and subsequent death of Robert Schumann. Robert, and his wife Clara, had been instrumental in launching the career of young Brahms as a composer. He was highly conscious of the debt he owed to them. Secondly, Brahms's mother suffered a stroke in February 1865 from which she never recovered. Frau Brahms had encouraged her son's musical abilities both at home in Hamburg and on his tours as virtuoso pianist. It was unfortunate that Brahms could not be present at her death.

It was this event - the death of Brahms's mother - that later gave Brahms the stimulus to write an extra movement, in which a solo soprano voice declares "For I will comfort you, like as a mother giveth comfort" (Isaiah 66: 13). Tonight, however, we gave the version of the work's first performance, which took place at Bremen Cathedral on Good Friday (April 10) 1868. This extra movement had not yet been composed. Our pianists provided a foretaste of it by playing the music but without the singer.

That Brahms was still a young man at this time, is indicated by a photograph I have of a young, beardless Brahms posing with the luxuriantly bearded Karl Reinthaler, organist at Bremen Cathedral. Much correspondence survives between Reinthaler and Brahms, over the thorny issue of the composer's refusal to countenance any Latin, the language traditionally used in a requiem. Moreover, Brahms was adamant that he wanted no reference either to Christ or to His work of redemption anywhere in the work. He said it was to be a Requiem for the living, not the dead. The fact that Brahms and Reinthaler were well acquainted, was probably an advantage in this respect. Clara Schumann, who was present at the premiere, recorded in her diary that an amicable compromise was reached. Brahms's friend Joseph Joachim, the violinist, played some violin solos at the concert, and Frau Amalia Joachim, his wife, sang 'I Know That My Redeemer Liveth' from Messiah. That apparently started a tradition at Bremen which continued for many years.

An interesting footnote to this story is that, at the time, Herr Joachim, who spoke English, began writing an English translation of the Requiem. Diaries kept by friends certainly give the impression that Brahms was very much in favour of this plan. I feel sure that, had Brahms been present tonight, he would have approved of our performance.

TT



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Jeff Cousins

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EPN Subscriptions in 2023

Thank you for your support of EPN during 2022.

The Editorial and Production Team hope that you have enjoyed reading EPN this year and finding out more about all that goes on at St Mary's. We try to keep you abreast of our services and the many activities to which you are most cordially invited.

For 2023 EPN copies downloaded from our website are again free, but we ask you to pay 60p per printed copy for issues collected at church.

For those who have their EPN copies delivered by hand, the annual subscription remains at £6. Your distributor will be knocking on your door to ask if you would like to subscribe again. Please make cheques payable to "PCC St Mary the Virgin, Ewell".

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BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON

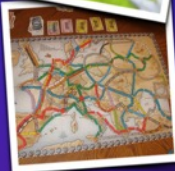
**Saturday 21 January
2-5pm in Ewell Hall**



All
Ages
Welcome

**St Mary's Church
plays board games!**

Come and join us 2-5pm in Ewell Hall. Games of luck and skill, familiar games, some new and unusual games, suitable for young and old. Free tea & cake will be served. No need to book – just turn up!



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SPRIT OF CHRISTMAS DINNER

It was a dark, cold night in early December. There was a chill in the air. Perhaps a promise of snow? But when we opened the door of Ewell Hall we were greeted by all that goes to make the Spirit of Christmas: the greetings of old and new friends, a glass of fizz and the buzz of warm chatter around festive tables.

After a welcome from our church warden Valerie and a prayer from Mark our vicar, we pulled crackers, read out the "jokes", poured out the Sauvignon Blanc and Côtes du Rhône and embarked upon a delicious meal prepared by the



Social Committee of salmon and prawn terrine, chicken and leek pie with petits pois, Chanteray carrots and new potatoes followed by a choice of Christmas pudding, raspberry meringues or cheese and biscuits served by Rosemarie and her team. What more could one wish for?

Well, there was much more! There was entertainment between the courses.

First George, a rich baritone we note, sang about Burlington Bertie who rose at 10.30 and invited us to join in where we could. Jonathan will have him in the choir or the St Mary's Singers, if he doesn't watch out! It was great fun and much appreciated.



Then came a new version of Good King Wenceslas updated by Jenny. The stage was set: to the right a cottage door (thank you, Ray): to the left a palace interior supplied with a chicken, sausages, ham, fruit and PLONK. Enter Good King Wenceslas (Godfrey in a grey beard, crown and kingly robes, his page Charlie (Angela in cap, tights and boots) and Jenny (old peasant in a colourful shawl) singing the first lines of the well-known carol. The King looked out. He saw the old peasant trudging through the snow (paper

flakes falling). But was it all as it seemed?? Of course not! True to the carol the king sent his page out to give the old peasant food. Little did he know that Charlie had a cunning plan. "I know what I'm doing" said he....Something fishy was afoot. The kindly king was enticed into the cottage and very shortly, after much noise offstage, emerged looking dazed on the arm of the old peasant's daughter, Charlie's sister! (Mike in a blonde wig and a well-fitting gown) whom he agreed to marry. Much rejoicing from Charlie in anticipation of a change of status! All good fun and much laughter all round. Thank you cast for a very amusing and well-acted play.

And finally after the dessert with Jonathan at the piano we all sang a medley of Christmas songs. What an evening!! It takes a great deal of planning, effort, imagination and time to stage such an event. We are indeed fortunate to have in our parish so many people who give their time to plan, prepare and serve such a delicious meal and entertainment. Thank you all. We have indeed experienced the spirit of Christmas.

GE

FATHER CHRISTMAS - HE GOT STUCK COMING DOWN THE CHIMNEY....



Well, I am pleased to report this didn't happen for the Toddler's Christmas Party - maybe he hasn't had all those mince pies yet.

Following our usual puppets and magic from Uncle John and a tummy full of party treats, with a loud thump and jingle the magic sleigh arrived on the Ewell Hall roof and Santa clattered down the stairs to distribute gifts for all the children. For many this will be their first experience of meeting this august figure and most were very pleased to receive their present from Santa's own hands.

The fifteen families were pleased to see Fr. Mark, our vicar, who was able to drop in. They are all looking forward to the new term which starts on 5 January.

Thanks go to those who helped to arrange and manage this event. Toddlers are still looking for volunteers to assist with the running of this ever-popular group and if you feel able to help, Jenny would love to hear from you. Tel. 0208 393 4804.

JD





ST. MARY'S ECO GROUP

ECO Tips for January

- Turn your heating thermostat down 1 or 2 degrees and wear warm clothes indoors
- Could you eat less meat?
- Do make sure you recycle Christmas gift wrappings whenever possible.
- Take your refillable coffee cup with you for when you buy coffee when you are out.

If you have an ECO tip, the Eco Group would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Sue Ayling at: assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com or 020 8337 6347.

SING-A-LONG SOUND OF MUSIC



On November 26 the church came alive to 'The Sound of Music' and what a wonderful and joyous occasion it was.

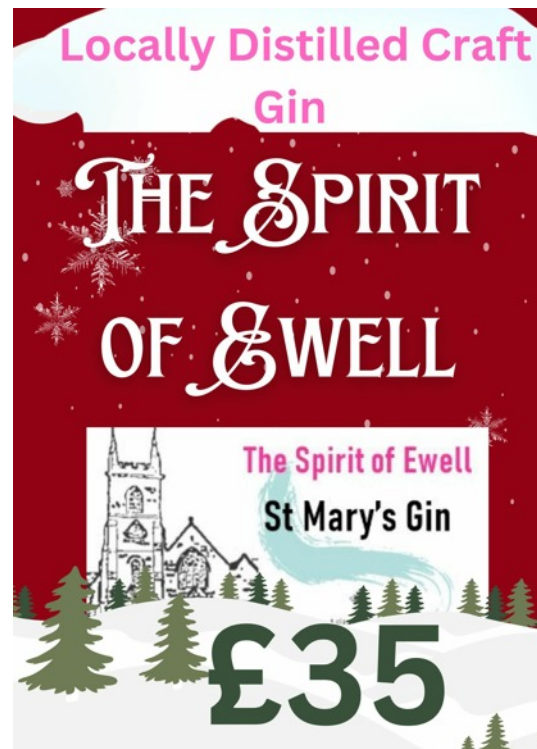
Lederhosen were much in evidence along with a bevy of nuns – one with pink hair!! Even Mother Teresa popped along to join in the fun. A large, rather noisy, brown paper package helped serve refreshments and there was an assortment of small paper packages, all appropriately tied up with string.

The film began and the beautiful scenery immediately drew us all in and the audience responded with gusto when the very familiar and much-loved melodies filtered through the church.

Thank you to everyone involved for giving us a really enjoyable and uplifting evening.

GAB

ST. MARY'S GIN



Our specially commissioned and distilled gin is now on sale.

Our gin is locally distilled. and has notes of juniper, coriander, lemon grass and orange peel.

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If you are unable to get to All Things Nice, please speak to Fr Mark or Lucy and we can arrange to collect your order for you.

EPN copy dates for 2023

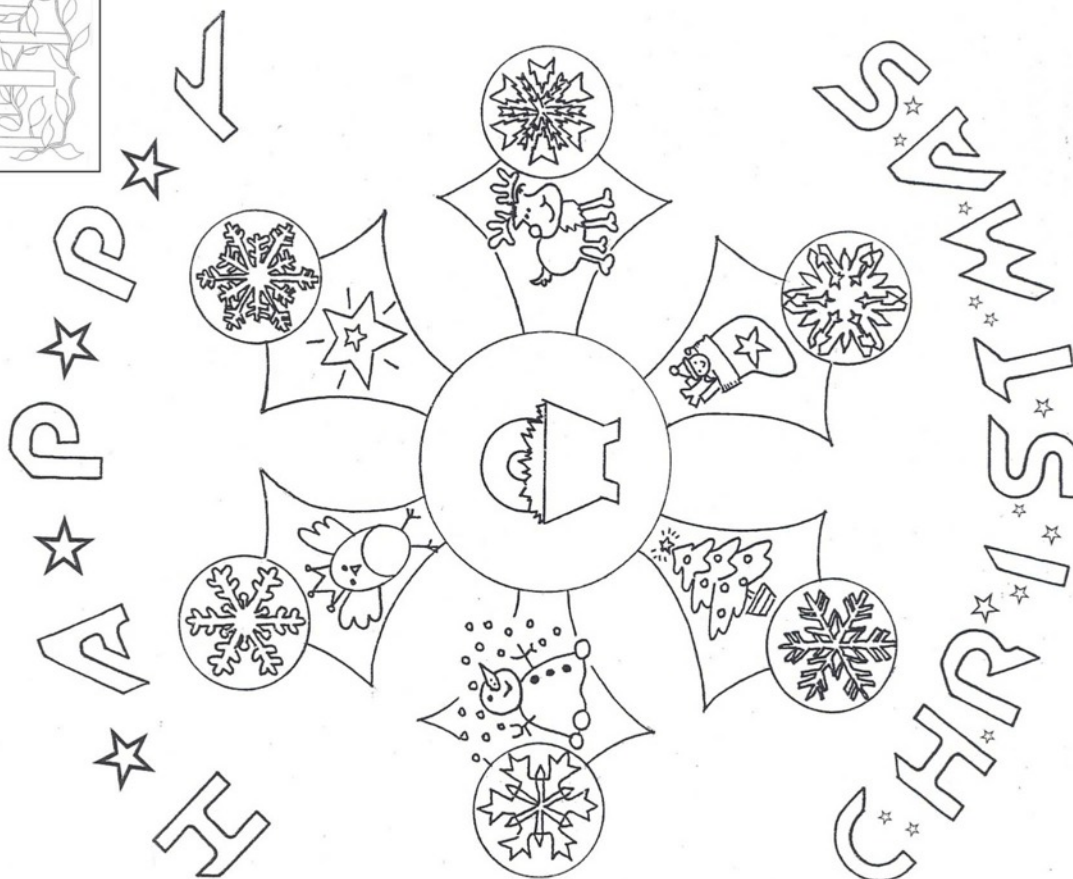
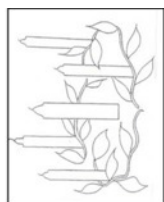
We welcome articles from members of the congregation, especially reports on parish activities. These should be sent to epn@stmarysewell.com before noon on the following Mondays:

16 Jan	13 Feb	13 Mar
17 Apr	15 May	12 June
10 July	14 Aug	18 Sept
16 Oct	13 Nov	11 Dec

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Young Church Mag

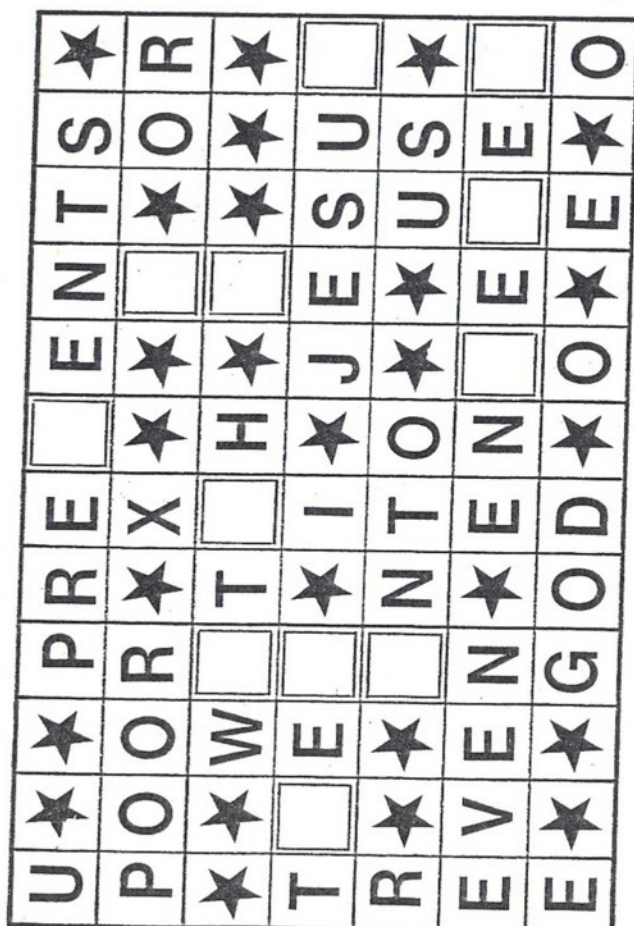
25 December 2022, Christmas Day



Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Go Team
Christmas Day 2022

It's a Cool Christmas Crossword—with holes in!
Can you fit into the 12 gaps the 12 letters of

CHRISTMAS DAY



The stars that shine at Christmas
Shine on throughout the years;
Jesus, born so long ago,
Still gathers with us here.
We listen to his stories,
We learn to say his prayer,
We follow in his footsteps
And learn to love and share



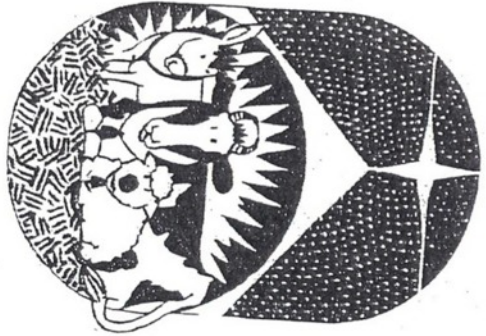
Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Go Team
Christmas Day 2022

1

1

Page 10 can be cut out if needed

Unjumble the **odd one out**



Unjumble the letters
to find 5 animals.

Have you got them?

Now can you guess
the odd one out?

Hint!

It's the one that was
definitely **NOT** in the
stable on that first

Christmas Day!

cwo

hepes

xo

griet

ekoynd

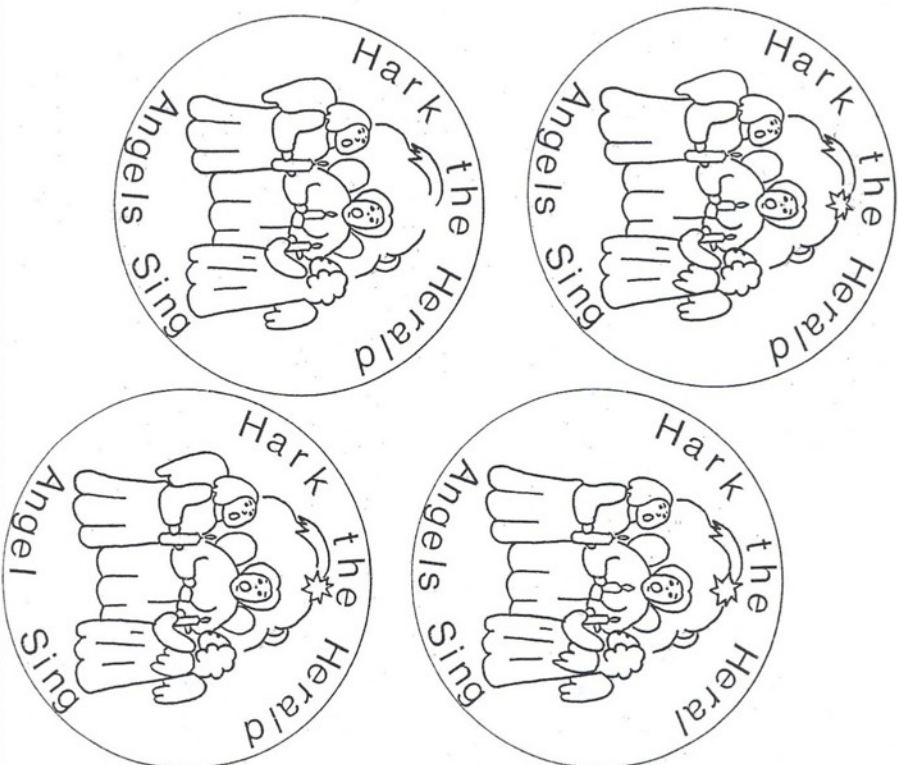


These started off as 4 four-letter words, but got cut in half.
Use your clues to help you stick them back together again

Clue 1	Clue 2	Clue 3	Clue 4
It shines	Just born	New mother	Happy
star			

Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Go Team
Christmas Day 2022

Two things are missing in each picture.
Can you spot them all?



By the way ...

When can't you hear the choir?
When they sing too **Choir-ut-ly!**

Why did the angel stand on a ladder?
To reach the high notes!





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Calendar for January



Morning Prayer will usually be celebrated at 0900 Monday to Saturday and shown online

- S 01 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**
0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
0930 Sung Eucharist
- T 03** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- Th 05** 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- F 06 EPIPHANY**
1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)
- S 08 EPIPHANY 1/BAPTISM OF CHRIST**
0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Eucharist
1115 Choral Mattins
- T 10** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
1305 Lunchtime Bach Organ Recital
- Th 12** 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- F 13** 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)
- S 15 EPIPHANY 2**
0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Eucharist
1730 Choral Evensong
- T 17** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
1930 PCC Meeting (Parish Room)
- W 18** 2000 Quiz on Zoom
- Th 19** 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
1445 Bereavement Café (Hall)
- F 20** 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)
- S 21** 1400-1700 Board Games Afternoon (Hall)
- S 22 EPIPHANY 3**
0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Eucharist
- T 24** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
- Th 26** 1000 St Mary's Toddler Group (Hall)
- F 27** 1200-1600 Fireside Friday (Hall)
- S 29 EPIPHANY 4**
0800 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)
0930 Jesus and Me (JAM) (Hall then Church)
0930 Sung Eucharist
- T 31** 1000 Said Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)

AN AWARD FOR EWELL IN BLOOM

Epsom and Ewell were both awarded silver in the annual South & South East 'In Bloom' competition and Stoneleigh received a commendation. In Ewell High Street there were 'blooming' themed windows in the shops and on the post boxes there were knitted floral decorations, created by the Ewell Yarn Bombers. Ewell Castle School used old wellies to create displays and at St Mary's Church there were beautiful floral displays.



Ewell Hall EVENTS + ACTIVITIES

A WELCOMING VENUE IN THE HEART OF EWELL*

- Family parties and celebrations
- Club, society and group meetings
- Craft, activity and art classes
- Exercise and meditation classes
- Children's parties and activities
- Business meetings and events
- Musical events and dances
- Lunches, teas and dinners, etc

* Ewell Hall, 7 London Road, Ewell KT17 2AY
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Ewell Hall is Managed for the Community under the Trusteeship of the
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